

Message Text

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70

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

NIC-01 IO-13 RSR-01 /096 W

----- 109866

R 311120Z AUG 73

FM AMCONSUL IZMIR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1035

INFO AMCONSUL ADANA

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

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E.O. 11652C N/A/ TAGS: PINT, TU

SUBJECT: RPP INTERNAL CONFLICT

1. AUG 29 REPUBLICAN PEOPLES PARTY SECRETARY GENERAL EYUPOGLU FLEW TO IZMIR TO MEET WITH PARTY LEADERS FROM SIX AEGEAN PROVINCES. ACCORDING TO STATEMENT ISSUED AFTER MEETING PURPOSE WAS TO DISCUSS PROBLEMS OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, COST OF LIVNG, UNEMPLOYMENT, ETC. IN ACTUALITY MAIN PURPOSE OF MEETING WAS TO TRY TO BRING A HALT TO INTRA-PARTY FIGHTING. SOME OLDER, MORE CENTRIST MEMBERS OF

PAGE TWO RUQNBWA6533 C O N F I D E N T I A L

PARTY, AFRAID OF ITS LEFTWARD SLIDE AND HOPING TO FIELD A MODERATE SLATE OF CANDIDATES FOR OCTOBER ELECTION, HAVE BEEN CAMPAIGNING AGAINST MORE LEFTIST CANDIDATES AND SUGGESTING THAT SOME OF THEM ARE EXTREMISTS.

2. PARTY CENTRAL ORGANIZATION IS APPARENTLY CONCERNED SUCH ACTIONS MAY ALIENATE YOUNGER, ACTIVIST PARTISANS AND FURTHER WEAKEN PARTY. EYUPOGLU TOLD PROVINCIAL LEADERS THAT ANY CANDIDATE

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WHO CAMPAIGNS AGAINST A FELLOW RPP CANDIDATE ON

BASIS OF ALLEGED EXTREMISM WILL BE REMOVED FROM
CANDIDATE LIST BY CENTRAL PARTY ORGANIZATION.

3. JUSTICE PARTY ORIENTED PRESS THIS WEEK HAS BEEN
CARRYING ARTICLES ALLEGING INTRA-PARTY FIGHTING IN
RPP BETWEEN MODERATE AND "EXTREMIST" ELEMENTS.
FACT THAT PROBLEM EXISTS THUS COMMON KNOWLEDGE.
NEVERTHELESS RPP SO SENSITIVE ON THE ISSUE IZMIR
PROVINCIAL CHAIRMAN FELT OBLIGED TO MAKE STATEMENT
DENYING INTRA-PARTY CONFLICT.

4. COMMENT: RPP OBVIOUSLY IN DELICATE POSITION. IT

PAGE THREE RUQNBWA6533 C O N F I D E N T I A L
CONSCIOUSLY EXPANDING TO LEFT TO ATTEMPT ATTRACT
NEW VOTERS AMONG YOUTH AND SMALL FARMERS. AT
SAME TIME IT DOES NOT WISH TO BECOME TARRED WITH
BRUSH OF EXTREMISM AND RISK LOSING ITS MORE CENTRIST
SUPPORTERS. WHILE PARTY LEADERS ARE UNDOUBTEDLY
AWARE THIS POSITION MAY NOT BE SUSTAINABLE OVER
EXTENDED PERIOD, THEY DON'T WANT TO BE FORCED OUT
OF IT BEFORE THE ELECTION BY THEIR OWN INTRA-PARTY
SQUABBLES.
FLANIGAN
GDS-4

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